



# PLAZA NEWSLETTER(July 2024)

In Japan, July is sometimes called Fumiduki, but there are other names for it, such as Tanabatazuki or Akihaduki. This is because, July 7 is the Tanabata day. The weather has been bad on July 7 for the past few years, so I hope it will be sunny this year(\*)! The origin of Akihaduki, literally means the beginning of autumn, which in the lunar calendar is from July to September. Now that it is still hot in those months, it is surprising that it is already autumn. (\*There is a legend of tragic lovers who can only meet on Tanabata day when the weather is clear.)

The Plaza received 66 consultations in May. We share some of them with advice from us.  
※Some content has been edited so that individual are not identified.

Q : I live in Kumamoto with a technical intern visa status. I recently got married and made a promise to the company that I would not get pregnant. However, since I became pregnant, my husband had to quit his job and I had to return to my country. My company has asked me to pay for my own airline ticket back home and they don't even let me use my paid time off. What should I do?

A : Please consult with the supervising organization first. If they do not respond, consult with the Organization for Technical Intern Training. Basically, the company must not tell the trainee not to get pregnant when they get married, and when the trainee returns home, for whatever reason, the costs must be paid by the company or the supervising organization.

Q : I am in Japan for a short stay. I came to Japan to register my marriage and for sightseeing, and while preparing my marriage certificate, I found out that I am pregnant. My obstetrician told me to bring my mother-child handbook the next time I visit the clinic, but can I get it when I haven't even processed my marriage certificate in Japan yet? Also, I would like to join the National Health Insurance after obtaining a visa, but can I receive the Lump-sum allowance for childbirth and nursing even if I have not been a member for more than 6 months?

A : To receive the Mother-child handbook, you need to register as a resident. If you are unable to register immediately, please consult with the ward office near your residence. In addition, eligibility for the lump-sum allowance is contingent on enrollment in national health insurance, social health insurance, etc., but the period of insurance coverage is irrelevant.

Q : I applied for a residence card at Kumamoto Airport. How long will it take and where will it be delivered?

A : According to the Kumamoto Immigration Office, they said it takes about two weeks to arrive at the address where the resident is registered.

If you have any problems, please contact the Kumamoto Consultation and Support Plaza for foreign residents





# **The 19th Course Guidance for foreign students and their parents in Kumamoto**



The Course Guidance, which has been well received by many participants every year, will be held again this year. It has been popular with participants reporting that they were able to learn new information and relieve their anxiety about entrance exams. The High School Education Division of the Kumamoto Prefectural Board of Education will explain the special measures for entrance examinations. There is also an explanation of the differences between public and private high school admissions and tuition fees. You can speak to the teachers about the high school you want to go to. Second and third year junior high school students and their parents who have come to Japan from abroad are encouraged to participate and prepare for the entrance examinations. This is a language-specific individual consultation, so Chinese, Korean, and English interpreters will be available. Reservations are required to attend.

**Date: Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**At: Large room, 5F,**

**Kumamoto city International Center**

**Time: Chinese & Korean : 13:00-14:40**

**English & other languages : 15:00-16:40**

**Deadline for reservation: Wednesday, June 26, 2024**

**Inquiry: 080-3974-7493**



QR code for reservation





## Educational consultation

The Plaza receives consultation on children's education. We are open to various questions and concerns about nursery schools and kindergartens, high school entrance exams, elementary, junior high, and high school, the Japanese education system, letters your child receives from school, school events ..... and so on.

Come to the Plaza and talk to the consultant, who belongs to “Support Net Kumamoto for Children from Foreign Countries”, if you have such questions and worries.

### NPO Support Network for Children from Abroad Kumamoto

We work for children with foreign roots and their parents.

- 1) Kumamoto Children's Japanese
- 2) Japanese language instructor training and development
- 3) Course Guidance
- 4) Exchange meeting for students with foreign roots
- 5) Creating a place to be and learning support



### A message to foreign residents in Kumamoto!

If you have any questions about education or schools in Japan, please come to our consultation counter on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. We will do our best to support you.

■ Educational consultation 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, 10:00-15:00





## Information on Kumamoto Consultation and Support Plaza for Foreign Residents

The Plaza offers professional consultations including legal affairs, residence status issues, job, housing and life affairs support in multiple languages. Consultants who speak English, Chinese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Spanish, Nepali and Taiwanese are available at the Plaza as the schedule below.

### July Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
01	02 • Chinese Consultation	03 • <b>Immigrational Consultation</b> • Vietnamese Consultation • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • German Consultation	04 • <b>Korean Consultation</b>	05 • Spanish Consultation • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • English Consultation	06	07 • <b>Vietnamin Consultation</b> • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b>
08 closed	09 • Chinese Consultation	10 • <b>Job Consultation</b> • <b>Mental Health Counseling</b> • Tagalog Consultation • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • German Consultation	11 • <b>Korean Consultation</b>	12 • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • English Consultation	13	14 • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • <b>Educational Consultation</b>
15 <b>National Holiday "Marine Day"</b>	16 • Chinese Consultation	17 • <b>Housing Consultation</b> • Vietnamese Consultation • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • German Consultation • Life Consultation in Taiwanese	18 • <b>Korean Consultation</b>	19 • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • English Consultation	20 • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • <b>Free Legal Consultation</b>	21 • <b>Immigrational Consultation</b> • Vietnamese Consultation • Nepal Consultation
22 closed	23 • Chinese Consultation	24 • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • German Consultation • <b>One-stop Consultation Service for International Students</b> • <b>Job Consultation</b>	25 • <b>Korean Consultation</b>	26 • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • English Consultation	27	28 • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • <b>Educational Consultation</b> • Life Consultation in Taiwanese
29	30 • Chinese Consultation	31 • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • German Consultation	01	02	03	04
05	06	note: Consultations 1:00p.m~5:00p.m (apart from the ones below) □ • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> 1:00pm ~ 6:00pm • <b>Immigrational Consultation</b> 1:00pm~4:00pm • <b>Free Legal Consultation</b> 2:00pm~4:00pm (Reservation required) • <b>One-stop Consultation Service for International Students</b> 1:00pm~4:00pm • <b>Job Consultation</b> 10:00am~6:00pm • <b>Mental Health Counseling</b> 3:30pm~5:30pm • <b>Educational Consultation</b> 10:00am~3:00pm				

※ Consultation service could be cancelled due to consultant's personal reasons. Please e-mail or call us beforehand to check if the consultant is available.

### Kumamoto Consultation and Support Plaza for Foreign Residents' Facebook

We regularly update information useful to you.

Follow us and be one of the first one to be informed!



Plaza's FB

We are offering variety of information useful to your life. Please check us!



Our website



Our Life affairs guidance

### Kumamoto Consultation and Support Plaza for Foreign Residents

**Location:** 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Kumamoto City International Center

**Address:** 4-18 Hanabata-Cho, Chuo-Ku, Kumamoto City, 860-0806

**Tel:** 096-359-4995

**E-mail:** [soudan@kumamoto-if.or.jp](mailto:soudan@kumamoto-if.or.jp)

**Opening hours:** Between 10 am and 6 pm

**Closed** on second and fourth Mondays and between December 29 and January 3

★ If second or fourth Monday is a national holiday, the plaza will be closed the following day instead.

